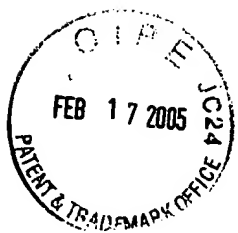


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AF/ 2121



February 15, 2005

Robert H. Francis
Cougar Engineering, LLC
8 Bayridge Court
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878

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FEB 25 2005

Technology Center 2100

Mr. Anthony Knight
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313

RE: Application Number 09/771,799

Dear Mr. Knight:

I am writing as a follow-up to my previous requests for a face-to-face meeting with the USPTO and the Office Action I received, dated January 25, 2005, regarding the above noted application.

The prior art referenced in the Office Action used to reject claim 3 as being anticipated by USPN 6,311,680 B1 Bradley, Sr. et al. was filed on 21 March 2000 after my USPTO Disclosure, #469501 dated 22 February 2000. The Disclosure was referenced in my patent application, and therefore USPN 6,311,680 B1 Bradley Sr. et al is not prior art.

I would like to again request a face-to-face meeting with you to discuss the status of my patent application. Please contact me at your earliest convenience to schedule an agreeable time for us to meet.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Francis PE
President
301-963-1719
bfrancis@cougarengineering.com